



FAIRFAX COUNTY PARK AUTHORITY

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For Immediate Release

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Three Ribbon Cuttings to Mark New Fields, Playground

It's been a busy construction season for the Fairfax County Park Authority and three new facilities will be opened in the next few weeks, marked by ribbon cutting ceremonies. The public is invited to join in the celebration on Saturday, July 21st at 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. respectively, as new synthetic turf fields open at Poplar Tree Park and South Run District Park, and on Sunday, July 22nd as citizens celebrate the completion of a new community playground at South Railroad Street Park with ceremonies at noon.

The four field projects are part of a continuing effort by the Park Authority to address a county-wide rectangular field shortage. Since lighted synthetic turf fields result in increased field capacity of 62%, plans are in place for the construction and/or conversion of up to 18 fields by 2010.

At Poplar Tree Park two more synthetic turf field conversions were completed. Field conversion on field # 2 and 3 was completed on-time by contractor Atlas Track, Inc. Poplar Tree Park is located at 4718 Stringfellow Road in Chantilly.

At South Run District Park fields 5 and 6, two synthetic turf field conversions were also completed by Atlas Track Inc. These projects were supported through funding provided by Park Bonds, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, and the Department of Community Services. The Park Authority is working closely with the Athletic Council and local youth and adult athletic organizations to complete field projects. South Run Park is located at 7550 Reservation Drive in Springfield.

The third ribbon cutting on Sunday afternoon will mark the opening of South Railroad Street Park at 8018 Railroad Street in Dunn Loring, VA. This small, linear park will provide area residents with a new playground and green space, converting vacant land into a much-needed recreational area. Enthusiastic neighbors, working hand-in-hand with Providence District Supervisor Linda Smyth envisioned, and then planned the park. Utilizing the Park Authority's John Mastenbrook matching grant program, the community raised over \$19,000 to fund park improvements. A community picnic will follow the noontime ceremony.

For more information about any of these events or projects, please contact the Public Information Office at 703-324-8662.

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